

Development, Enterprise and Trade: Sharing Learning from the Malawi CROPS project

Thursday 28 January 2021

12.00 - 13.30 UK
14.00 – 15.30 Malawi

[Click here to join the webinar on Zoom.](#)

Speakers

John Chambamakasa, Malawi CROPS Finance and Business Development Manager

John is currently the Finance and Business Development Manager in the project called Creating Robust Opportunities for Production and Sale (CROPS), his primary responsibilities in this project includes the following: ensuring crops are aggregated for processing by the cooperative farmers, conducting marketing linkages of the farmer produce, linking the farmers to financial institutions to solve the issues of access to finance, provision of business advisory services to the cooperatives as well as ensuring that the cooperatives governance systems are in place through proper financial and administration procedures.

Charity Harawa, Value Addition Centre (VAC) Manager

Charity is working with the CROPS Project as a VAC Manager for the Lifidzi Value Addition Centre. Her primary roles include monitoring the day to day operations of the VAC, identifying and linking the VAC with new buyers and subject matter specialists (input suppliers, equipment providers, Agro-processors, clients, etc.) on technical and management improvement, ideas for investments of profits; building the capacity of cooperatives to manage these business relationships; helping Cooperative and WUA managers in understanding and analyse their performance results; helping them analyse strengths and weakness and look for improvements.

Lusayo Kalulu, Agribusiness Officer, Malawian Government

Lusayo Kalulu is a seasoned Agribusiness Manager currently working with the Malawi Government and is currently posted to Salima district in central Malawi from which Lifidzi VAC which is under CROPS Project is located. She is responsible for ensuring more agriculture cooperatives are being formed, encouraging collective selling and ensuring that more benefits trickle down to smallholder farmers through reliable markets and sales.

Hope Koka, Malawi CROPS Agricultural Development Manager

Hope is currently the Project Agriculture Manager for Challenges Malawi's Creating Robust Opportunities for Improved Production and Sale Project (CROPS). She has vast experience working with the private sector as well as Non-Governmental Organisations in the Agricultural Sector. Before joining Challenges Worldwide, she worked on a DFID-funded project called Business Innovation Facility.

Eoghan Mackie, Chief Executive, Challenges Worldwide

Eoghan is the Chief Executive of The Challenges Group, a family of social businesses he founded in 1999. With 20 years' experience in the social enterprise and international development arenas, he is a highly respected leader and agent of best practice. Challenges has six offices across Scotland, Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia and Malawi, specialising in social enterprise and SME development in emerging economies. A commercial lawyer by training, Eoghan has considerable legal, business and entrepreneurial experience. He has also founded a variety of vehicles to support social enterprise investment, fund management and business development.

McPherson Phiri, farmer, Lifidzi Value Addition Center

Mr Mcpherson Phiri is an experienced farmer who is based in Salima district in Malawi, a member of Funde Water User Association and Lifidzi Value Addition Centre.

Martin Rhodes, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

Martin became involved with Fair Trade through campaigning on international development and trade justice issues. He was a founding member of the Glasgow North Fair Trade Group which joined with Fair Trade campaigners from across Glasgow to form the Glasgow Fair Trade Steering Group. He was elected as the Chair of the Glasgow Fair Trade Steering Group and later the Glasgow Fair Trade Co-operative. In September 2010, Martin was appointed as Director and later Chief Executive of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum.

MEETING DETAILS

Click [on this link](#) on Thursday 28 January at 12 noon (UK time) / 14.00 (Malawi time):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89628810590?pwd=a0VuNEV4Sm9adnhKbmVaZ0lPN3dEZz09>

Webinar ID: 896 2881 0590

Passcode: 650034

Questions before the event? Contact Colleen: colleen.tait@sftf.org.uk / Tel: +44 (0) 141 353 5611

Malawi CROPS is a [Challenges Worldwide](#) project. Webinar hosted by [the Scottish Fair Trade Forum](#).

